

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BERLIN 07173 261827Z

63

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
----- 013261

R 261610Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO USIA WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 3689

UNCLAS BERLIN 7173

E O 11652: NA

TAGS:.

SUBJ: DRESDEN ART TO US

1. PHILIP DE MONTEBELLO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART IN NEW YORK, AND THE PAO HELD A NINETY-MINUTE DISCUSSION TODAY WITH MINISTRY OF CULTURE OFFICIALS IN WORKING OUT SOME DETAILS OF THE 1978-79 EXHIBIT OF DRESDEN ART IN THE US. THE MEETING WAS CORDIAL AND PRODUCTIVE AND BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE PLANS THUS FAR. PARTICIPATING ON THE MINCULT SIDE WERE DR. HELMUT TAUTZ, CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, HIS AIDE FRAU LEONORE NINDL, TWO ART OFFICIALS FROM DRESDEN, DR. JOACHIM MENZHAUSEN, CURATOR OF THE GREEN VAULT, AND HANS ROST, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DRESDEN ART, AND A MINCULT NOTETAKER. THE SPECIFIC MATTERS DISCUSSED WERE THE DATES FOR THE EXHIBIT IN WASHINGTON , NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO, ITS CONTENT, CONTRACTS, CATALOGUES, REPRODUCTIONS, COSTS, INSURANCE AND MEDALLIONS.

2. TAUTZ ANNOUNCED THE GDR'S WILLINGNESS TO PROCEED WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS AND RAISED THE QUESTION OF DATES IN THE THREE CITIES. IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE DATES FOR THE FIRST SHOWING, AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY IN WASHINGTON, HAD YET TO BE DETERMINED BUT THAT THE EXHIBIT, ON VIEW FOR THREE MONTHS, HAD TO BE TERMINATED THERE BY MID-JULY, HAD TO BE NEW YORK BY THE END OF JULY, AND AFTER FIVE WEEKS OF PREPARATION, WOULD BEGIN THE SECOND US SHOWING AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM IN MID-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BERLIN 07173 261827Z

SEPTEMBER UNTIL MID-DECEMBER, FOLLOWING WHICH IT WOULD

GO TO THE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM IN SAN FRANCISCO FOR THE THIRD AND FINAL SHOWING PROBABLY FROM JANUARY UNTIL MARCH 1979. THE EXHIBIT WOULD BE EXPECTED BACK IN DRESDEN BY APRIL 30, 1979.

3. BECAUSE OF THE INEXPLICABLE LATENESS OF TWO MONTHS IN THE DELIVERY OF A LETTER FROM METROPOLITAN DIRECTOR HOVING TO THE MINISTRY, THE SELECTION PROCESS OF THE EXHIBIT'S CONTENT HAD NOT YET BEGUN; CONSEQUENTLY FEBRUARY WAS THE VERY EARLIEST WHEN THE GDR WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE ANOTHER VISIT BY THE AMERICAN CURATORS TO FINALIZE THE LIST OF EXHIBIT MATERIALS. TAUTZ STRESSED THAT IT BE UNDERSTOOD BY ALL THREE AMERICAN MUSEUMS THAT THE GDR VIEWED THEM AS ONE ENTITY, AND THAT ANY DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WERE TO BE RESOLVED AMONG THEMSELVES. THEREFORE, HE HOPED THAT THE VISITING CURATORS WOULD BE FROM ALL THREE MUSEUMS. MONTEBELLO ASSURED TAUTZ THIS WOULD BE THE CASE AND THAT WHILE THE NATIONAL GALLERY WOULD WORK OUT SOME OF ITS OWN DETAILS SEPARATELY, HE REPRESENTED BOTH THE METROPOLITAN AND THE YOUNG MUSEUMS. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE CONTENT OF THE NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON SHOWINGS WOULD BE IDENTICAL, BUT THAT BECAUSE OF ITS SMALLER SIZE, THE YOUNG MUSEUM'S EXHIBIT CONTENT MIGHT BE REDUCED.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF A CONTRACT, THAT IS, WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE ONE UNBRELLA OR THREE INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS, IT WAS AGREED TO WAIT UNTIL THE NATIONAL GALLERY AND THE METROPOLITAN COULD IRON THIS OUT, FOLLOWING WHICH THE GDR WOULD MAKE A DECISION.

5. MONTEBELLO SAID THE METROPOLITAN NEEDED EIGHT MONTHS TO PREPARE A CATALOGUE, WANTED TO HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS OF EVERY EXHIBIT ITEM, WOULD ACCEPT BLACK AND WHITE PICTURES TAKEN BY THE GDR, BUT PREFERRED TO HAVE OWN PHOTOGRAPHER TAKE COLOR SHOTS, TOTALLING ABOUT 50. IT WAS AGREED ALSO THAT THE ENTIRE CATALOGUE TEXT WOULD BE SUPPLIED BY THE GDR, WITH US SIDE PROVIDING A GREETING PREFACE BY A DISTINGUISHED PERSONALITY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BERLIN 07173 261827Z

6. MONTEBELLO RAISED MATTER OF REPRODUCTIONS, THE SALE OF WHICH HELPS DEFRAY COST OF EXHIBITS. HE DISPLAYED SAMPLES FROM USSR SCYTHIAN EXHIBIT, AND OFFERED GIVE THE REPRODUCTION MASTERS TO DRESDEN FOR SAME PURPOSE IF DESIRED. OFFER WAS ACCEPTED. HE ALSO REQUESTED APPROVAL FOR FRANKLIN MINT TO STRIKE GOLD AND SILVER MEDALLIONS BEARING REPRODUCTIONS OF SOME

DRESDEN OBJECTS, FOR WHICH FRANKLIN MADE LARGE LUMP
SUM PAYMENT WHICH WOULD BE SPLIT BETWEEN US MUSEUMS
AND DRESDEN. ALSO ACCEPTED.

7. PACKING AND SHIPPING COSTS WOULD BE BORNE BY GDR,
TRANSPORTATION AND TRAVEL COSTS OF GDR COURIERS
BY US MUSEUMS. TAUTZ ANNOUNCED THERE WOULD BE
SEVERAL COURIERS FOR SECURITY AND THAT DR. MENZHAUSEN
WOULD BE IN OVERALL CHARGE OF EXHIBIT. IT WAS ALSO
UNDERSTOOD THAT THE USG WOULD INSURE THE EXHIBIT THROUGH
FEDERAL INDEMNITY, FROM DOOR TO DOOR AND WHILE IN
TRANSIT.

8. TAUTZ CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT THE DRESDEN EXHIBIT,
UNTIL NOW DISPLAYED ABROAD ONLY IN PART, HAD NEVER BEEN
SHOWN IN ITS ENTIRETY AS IT WAS BEING DEVELOPED FOR THE
US, AND THEREFORE WAS, IN THE GDR'S VIEW, A MAJOR EVENT
REPRESENTING AN UNDERTAKING OF HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL
RANK. POLANSKY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARTS, CULTURAL EXCHANGES, EXHIBITS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BERLIN07173
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760440-0301
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761110/aaaaaiir.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2004 by castels>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2004 by powellba>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRESDEN ART TO US
TAGS: SCUL, GC, US, (TAUTZ, HELMUT)
To: USIA
STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006